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Executive

14 July 1949

Assistant Director for Operations

Dissemination of CIA Reports - Item from Agenda 7 July Meeting of Coordination Group

1. Reference is made to your memorandum of 11 July, subject as above, covering the proposed Administrative Instruction and requesting comments on same.

2. It is the understanding of this Office that there are two basic purposes involved in the issuance of an Administrative Instruction on Dissemination of CIA Reports:

- a. Protection of sources as required by Public Law 253, and
- b. Maximum assistance on the part of CIA to prevent its Director from breaking Public Law 253.

3. In the event of a breach of Public Law 253, CIA should have the strongest possible Administrative Instruction to produce as evidence of its best intention to comply with the law. Such a memorandum was discussed at the Coordination Group meeting on 7 July and concurred in by all present, with the exception of the Assistant Director for Collection and Dissemination. The revised memorandum, forwarded for comment, tends to weaken the Instruction at practically every point of revision.

a. Paragraph 1, b - "normally" opens the door to meet any desirable circumstance.

b. Paragraph 1, c - the word "minimize" has no boundaries and can be a sound basis for almost any breach of security regarding source disclosure.

c. Paragraph 2, c eliminates, from the previous draft, the right of the collecting office to designate which office in which agency will be placed on the Limited Distribution list.

d. Paragraph 2, d, 1 indicates that, because a report is classified Restricted, the source is not sensitive. This is definitely not the case and if so written, would necessitate a general minimum classification of Confidential on ☐ reports.

e. Paragraph 2, d, 3 puts the Director in an untenable position vis-a-vis Public Law 253. Everybody in CIA knows that the Director, and this does not include everyone in his office as indicated, has special privileges which he can use when necessary

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but it is not believed that this paper is the place to call attention to it.

4. It is recommended that the memorandum be issued either as originally discussed on 7 July, or after revision to provide for the items outlined above.

GEORGE G. CAREY

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